Delay in releasing of telephone connections

4593. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy decision of Government over time gap between booking, issuance of O.B. and installation of telephone;

(b) whether it is at variance between MTNL and satellite towns like Ghaziabad;

(c) whether Government are aware that telephones booked during March, 1999 under Pratap Vihar exchange of Ghaziabad are still waiting installation while in nearby Noida telephones are reportedly installed on demand; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and by what time the telephone booked under priority number 3335/N-OYT for this exchange will be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE 'MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, applications for new telephone connections are registered and a waiting-list is maintained to release the telephones progressively based on available capacity. Normally, telephone connections are installed within 15 days after the issue of OB.

(b) No, Sir. There is no variance in policy guidelines between MTNL and Satellite towns like Ghaziabad.

(c) and (d) The Pratap Vihar Exchange was earlier frozen due to non-availability of capacity. Capacity of this exchange has been expanded from 5000 to 6000 in 2nd week of February, 2000 after availability of equipment. New telephone connections booked in Pratap Vihar are being released progressively after the expansion on this exchange. Waiting-list has been cleared upto 27.1.2000 as on date.

Telephone booked under Registration No. 3335N-OYT has been installed on 28.3.2000 with an indicator No. 4745512.